

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 1-19 are rejected. Claims 1-19 remain in the case for reconsideration. Reconsideration is requested. No new subject matter has been added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 4, 10, 14 and 18 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4, 10, 14 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, stated above and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 4, 10, 14 and 18 have been rewritten in independent form and are now in condition for allowance.

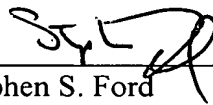
Misdirected Mail Correspondence

The Patent Office mailed Office Action, paper number 4, to the wrong address. Therefore, Applicant's listed representative did not receive the Office Action until March 25, 2004. Applicant has notified the Patent Office of the error and a new mailing date for the Office Action has been requested. It is respectfully requested that the Applicant be given additional time to provide additional responses to the Office Action and that the Applicant be reimbursed for the additional extension fees that have been incurred due to the Patent Office mistake in mailing the Office Action to the wrong address.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-19 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

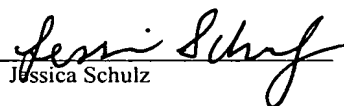
Respectfully submitted,



Stephen S. Ford
Reg. No. 35,139

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Jessica Schulz

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.
1030 SW Morrison Street
Portland, OR 97205
(503) 222-3613